#### **MARCH 2025**

## **JEFF & CANDACE WALTON**

Serving with Cadence International



### Hello everyone!

In a few months, we will have finished our third year here in Korea! The time feels like it has passed both quickly and slowly. The days are long, but the years are quick. We'd love to update you on what we've been doing since the holidays.

If you were to ask Jeff or me what our days are currently like, Jeff's answer would be "full!" We have a few busy days in the month, but mostly, we find ourselves living the fullness of the ordinary days and steps of obedience that God puts before us here. The ministry, the Friday nights, the discipleship, homeschooling, parenting, and our marriage fill our days full to the brim.

learned about the area's history. Now that we are the only house directors on the Korean Peninsula, it is always nice to have extended time with other Cadence staff.

The rest of January and February were very full. We celebrated the Super Bowl with a pancake breakfast, had our first engagement party for one of our members, and a newly married couple just had their first baby! Many of you prayed for baby Cassius, and we are so thankful for his continued recovery in the NICU. He has made great strides in healing, and we are praying and waiting for the day when he can go home.







It has also snowed numerous times this winter, making our boys extremely happy. They have gone beyond building innocent little snowmen to constructing snow forts and bombarding each other with snowballs. After a long afternoon in the snow, they come in rosy-cheeked, tired, and ready for a warm mug of "cocoa hot" as Joshie says.

Jeff and I were able to get away overnight in Seoul this January. We attended a concert with the Seoul Orchestra in the evening and planned part of our ministry for 2025 during the day. God has been laying on my (Candace's) heart the word "abide." I have the word in my journals from October of last year. It has been impressed on me more and more that I cannot

Thank you to all who sent stockings for Christmas! As always, having treats from home blessed our members so much. It is such a tangible way for them to feel love and care from you all. Our numbers for Christmas and New Year's were surprisingly smaller this year. It was true for our chapel as well. Many people decided to return to the States for Christmas. It was wonderful to celebrate with the few who remained in a small, cozy setting and spend time individually with them on Christmas and New Year's Eve.

In January, Jeff had the privilege of attending a men's retreat in Vietnam with the guys who run the Cadence Houses and youth ministry in mainland Japan and Okinawa. Jeff was able to disconnect from work and be refreshed with the other men as they explored, ate a ton of Bahn-mi, and

do the work that God has before me here unless I regularly abide in Him. Jeff and I decided that it would be the word for our ministry that we practice this year. 1 John 4:16 says,

"So we have come to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

God's direction is never wrong. We've needed a lot of Him in this full new year. Jeff leads a men's group here at the house on Monday nights. It has expanded since he started it last year. Jeff has encouraged the men to contact each other during the week to lift one another up in prayer and encourage and exhort one another. It has been so cool for me (Candace) to see how the guys arrive on Monday night



versus how they leave. I have seen guys come into the house looking discouraged and frustrated, but they ALWAYS leave with a spring in their step and hope in their faces. It has been a gift to see this group of men Jeff leads grow closer to the Lord and each other as brothers.

God has also been giving me opportunities to minister to a couple of young ladies here at Camp Humphreys who have been in crisis. God is so good. I was so grateful for my focus on the word "abide" because when I helped in the middle of one of those crises, I felt like I had a firm and steady foundation under my feet. I wasn't afraid; I wasn't doubtful. My head was clear, and I was able to act quickly. That was because God knew what was coming and had prepared me for it with His word "abide." I had been abiding in Him more and more in the days leading up to this situation. I am so thankful for Him who keeps me steady when everything around me is falling apart! What a great God we serve!

This new year also signals some changes for our ministry. Sadly, our fellow Cadence missionaries, Nate and Ana, will move back to the States in April. We are sad to see them go, but we are excited to see what God has in store for them in the future. Another news item is that we now have six chaplains at the chapel where we serve. It has been great to see the chapel fully staffed after operating with just two chaplains over the past few years. And we continue to look for a new building for the Humphreys Hospitality House. We have been working with a different realtor, and she has shown us a few buildings, one of which really fits our description. It has been exciting to see the possibilities of what God is doing, and we will keep you all updated as we move forward.

Thank you all again for your support and prayers. They make our ministry possible, and we appreciate them so much.

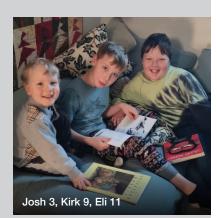
Here are some things you can pray for:

- Pray for more Cadence missionaries in Korea.
- Pray for the Soldiers out here—for wisdom and purity in their relationships and marriages.
- Pray for wisdom for our house/building hunt for HHH.
- Pray for endurance and rest for us as we balance it all.
- Pray for our boys to continually walk with God as we live and serve here.
- Pray for Candace's health, as she has been struggling with some thyroid issues.

Love, Jeff, Candace, Eli, Kirk, and Joshie

## **KIDZ KORNER:**

Our boys are growing so fast, especially Eli and Kirk. I noticed the other day that both of them are walking differently. Eli is almost as tall as me, and Kirk is not that far behind. With their long legs



and big feet, they are not scampering around like little kids anymore but trudging around like teenagers. For Eli, it is only a year and a half before he turns thirteen! He likes to remind me of that unpleasant fact. I'm not ready for them to grow up. Joshie still scampers after his brothers and always inserts himself into whatever they do. As much as they annoy each other, they love each other very much.

Since moving here, I have worried a lot about bringing the kids to Korea. I have wondered if we made the right decision to move our kids to the other side of the globe, away from their family and friends and home, and I have hoped this was not a big mistake. But I recently heard what Margaret Patty said to a new missionary mom: "Your kids will never be the same." Margaret and Dick Patty were some of the original founders of Cadence, and they started one of the first hospitality houses here in Asia many years ago when the only way to get this far was by boat. They took their baby and traveled to Asia to answer God's call on their lives. These words of Margaret's have comforted me so much. I have seen God's grace on my children. I've seen the older two deepen their walks with the Lord and grow in Him. They are brave, bold, and confident in ways I was not when I was their age. I thank God for His grace upon them and our whole family. Thank you for your continued prayers for them. Joshie is just starting to talk about Jesus. Please pray for his salvation to be soon.

# **Cadence**

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